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Period 5

12-7-09

Opening

The Riding Patriot. Paul Revere. On the night of April 18th, 1775, Paul Revere rode on his legendary and mythic Midnight Ride to Lexington. On that night, Paul Revere rode from his town near the Boston Harbor all the way to Lexington, then originally planned but never achieved, Concord. This was the event closest to the “Shot Heard Around the World” in the Battle of Lexington Concord. My objective is to be able to show where Paul Revere rode on his Midnight Ride and in its chronological order. At the end of the PPT, I will show you where he was and in the order.

Two Days Before

On the night of April 16th, two days before the famous ride, Revere issued a warning to Concord. He had become suspicious due to the fact that the British had began to pull their landing craft out of the water in Boston for repairs. Concord was an important city in the patriot’s cause due to the fact that many guns, ammunition, and shot were stored in the city. Also, the Provincial Congress was located in the city. Many of the people took this warning very seriously and began to hide their arms in the nearby farms and swamps. Luckily, the thought of the redcoats dispatching in the near future came true and the colonists were prepared. On the way home, him and the Patriot leaders of Charlestown discussed the plan to tell Revere which path the British were taking. Near the Old Northern Church, on the board (point to the board), they would place two lanterns on the belfry of it and if one lantern was lit, the British would be advancing by land and if two were lit, the British were going over water.

The Long Road

On the early evening, Paul Revere got reports that the British were moving across the Charles River (circle on board). Moved across the river to Charlestown, where he regained his steed and narrowly escaped two British patrols and pushed on to Lexington. Throughout the ride, while passing through Medford, Menotomy, and other small villages, he warned the people by speaking “The redcoats are coming out”, not the famous “The British are coming!” This is one of the biggest myths of his ride for many people think that is what he said but the true is “The Redcoats are coming out” due to the need of stealth and if the near British guards in the cities heard, he would surely be arrested.

The Country Side of Lexington and Road to Concord

Once in Lexington, Revere rode straight to Jonas Clark’s House where Samuel Adams and John Hancock were staying. Once there, they talked for a while about what actions to take while William Dawes, who also rode from Boston on the land route to Lexington to assist Paul Revere, arrived at the house. A third man arrived name Dr. Samuel Prescott, who was going home to Concord, and after all of the conversation was over, the three proceeded on the road to Concord. However, about half way through the road to Concord, the British set up a road patrol and the three smashed through the road block. Revere was captured and taken and although Dawes seemed to make it through, he was later thrown off his horse and taken. Prescott was the only one who made it to Concord. At the end of the journey, when going home, Revere stopped in Lexington to pick up some documents he left at the tavern and saw smoke and heard bullets which were the first of the Revolutionary War.

Closing

My objective was to (read off screen). As you can see, Paul Revere went through all the trouble of rowing across the Charles River, riding all the way to Lexington while warning all towns in between then attempting to get to Concord. My topic relates to Nationalism because Paul Revere wanted to help the Patriotic cause. He rode all the way to Concord those days before to help warn the patriots of the imposing British and then risked his life when attempting to ride to Concord and getting to Lexington. If he didn’t care for his country, he would not of ridden all the way to Concord.